

CROPS

GENERAL

A late seasonal frost followed by a very dry growing season had a big impact on crop production in 2007. Corn grain yields and silage yields were down from normal due to unfavorable growing conditions. Alfalfa hay yields, other hay yields, and all hay yields were below normal. Soybean and wheat yields were also below normal.

ALL HAY

All hay harvested area in 2007 totaled 600,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2006. The average yield in 2007 was 1.54 tons per acre compared to 1.77 tons per acre in 2006. Production totaled 923 thousand tons, down from 1.046 million tons in 2006. Value of production totaled \$72.8 million, \$6.1 million below the revised \$78.8 million in 2006. Price per ton averaged \$79.00, compared to the revised \$75.50 for 2006.

ALFALFA & ALFALFA MIXTURES

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 25,000 acres in 2007, 10,000 acres below 2006. Yields in 2007 averaged 2.4 tons per acre, down 0.5 of a ton from 2006. Production totaled 60,000 tons, down 42,000 tons from 2006. Value of production totaled \$8.0 million, down 37 percent from 2006. Average price per ton was \$134.00, up \$9.00 from the revised average price for 2006. New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures in 2007 totaled 4,000 acres, unchanged from 2006.

OTHER HAY

All other hay area harvested totaled 575,000 acres in 2007, up 20,000 acres from 2006. Yields averaged 1.5 tons per acre, down 0.2 of a ton from 2006. Production totaled 863,000 tons, down 81,000 tons from 2006. Value of production totaled \$64.7 million, down 2 percent from the revised value for 2006. Price per ton averaged \$75.00, up \$5.00 from the revised average in 2006.

CORN

Area planted to corn for all purposes in 2007 totaled 46,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2006. Harvested area for grain totaled 27,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2006. The average yield of 111.0 bushels per acre was down 9 bushels from the previous year. Production was 3.0 million bushels, down 4 percent from 2006. Value of production totaled \$12.6 million, up 13 percent from the revised value for 2006. Average price per bushel was \$4.20, up \$.63 from the revised average for 2006. Corn for silage area harvested was 18,000 acres in 2007, unchanged from 2006. Yields averaged 14.5 tons per acre which was down 2.5 tons from the previous year's yield. Silage production was estimated at 261,000 tons, down 15 percent from 2006.

SOYBEANS

Area planted to soybeans totaled 15,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from 2006. Area harvested for beans totaled 14,000 acres, also down 2,000 acres from 2006. The yield for soybeans in 2007 averaged 33.0 bushels per acre, down 9 bushels from 2006. Production was estimated at 462,000 bushels, down 31 percent from 2006. Value of production totaled \$4.6 million, a 6 percent increase from 2006. Price per bushel averaged \$9.90, up \$3.50 from the 2006 average price.

WHEAT

Wheat planted acres totaled 8,000 for the 2007 crop, unchanged from 2006. Area harvested for grain totaled 6,000 acres, unchanged from 2006. The average yield for 2007 was estimated to be 58.0 bushels per acre. This was down 3 bushels from the previous year. Production was estimated at 348,000 bushels, down 5 percent, or 18,000 bushels from 2006. Value of production totaled \$2.0 million, a 55 percent increase from the 2006 crop. Price per bushel averaged \$5.70, up \$2.20 from 2006.